

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 COME-00

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CEQ - DR. TALBOT (IN SUBSTANCE)

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION-EISENBUD

----- 025649

R 150004Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652 N/A

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TAGS:SENV,OCON,TBIO,BR,AR,AS,SF,DA,UK,MX,UR,NO,CA,PN,FR,IC

SUBJ: 27TH SESSION, INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION,
JUNE 23 - 27, 1975, LONDON

REF: STATE 46073

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO FOLLOW UP APPROACH REFTEL BY MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS TO HOST GOVERNMENT. USG HAS DECIDED NOT TO PLACE TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM ISSUE ON AGENDA THIS YEAR. (US DELEGATION WILL EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM CONCEPT IN OPENING STATEMENT, BUT WILL NOT PRESS IT FURTHER.) WE KNOW HOST GOVERNMENT SHARES OUR DESIRE TO CO-OPERATE TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT. THIS YEAR'S MEETING MAY BE CRUCIAL TO EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF IWC. (AMEMBASSY MOSCOW SUBSTITUTE "HOPE" FOR "KNOW" ABOVE.)

2. FYI. SOUNDINGS ELICITED BY REFTEL MADE CLEAR US WOULD HAVE LITTLE SUPPORT IN PRESSING FOR MORATORIUM, PARTICULARLY AS LONG AS AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT OFFERS HOPE OF WORKING. END FYI.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD DRAW UPON FOLLOWING POINTS AS APPROPRIATE IN MAKING PRESENTATION:

(A) US COMPROMISE IN NOT INSISTING THAT TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM BE ON AGENDA: DECISION IS SIGNIFICANT US ACCOMMODATION AND HAS RESULTED IN STRONG OBJECTIONS BY PRIVATE GROUPS IN US. USG IS MAKING THIS CONCESSION IN INTEREST OF ACHIEVING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT SINCE USG FEELS IMPLEMENTATION THIS YEAR IS CRITICAL TO FUTURE OF IWC. FYI. BROAD PUBLIC INTEREST IN WHALE CONSERVATION CONTINUES UNABATED. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT NOMINATION FOR US DELEGATION INCLUDES CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AND DR. ELVIS STAHR, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY AND FORMER SECRETARY OF ARMY. END FYI.

(B) IMAGE OF IWC AS CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION: HOST GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED WITH USG THAT IWC MUST PROVE ITSELF TO BE EFFECTIVE MECHANISM FOR CONSERVATION OF WHALES. AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT SUPPORTED BY HOST GOVERNMENT AND USG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAST YEAR PROVIDES MANAGEMENT BASIS FOR CONSERVATION OF WHALES NOW AND IN FUTURE. AS HOST GOVERNMENT WILL REMEMBER, JAPAN AND USSR OPPOSED AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT LAST YEAR. USG IS HOPEFUL THESE TWO COUNTRIES WILL AGREE TO IMPLEMENTATION THIS YEAR AND PROVE IWC IS VIABLE CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION.

(C) US POSITION: EMBASSY SHOULD POINT OUT THAT

WEAK INTERPRETATION OF AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT WOULD NOT BE ADEQUATE IN THAT AUSTRALIAN AMENDMENT MUST CONSTITUTE DEFINITE DEPARTURE FROM PAST PRACTICES OF IWC. WEAK INTERPRETATION WOULD RESULT IN CONCLUSION THAT IWC CONTINUES ITS SUPPORT FOR WHALING INDUSTRY AND IS NOT CONCERNED WITH EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION OF WORLD'S WHALE STOCKS. SINCE EMBASSY HAS ALREADY ASKED FOR HOST GOVERNMENT SUPPORT ON "Z" VALUE, YOU SHOULD NOT INITIATE DISCUSSION AGAIN. IF ASKED, STATE USG SUPPORTS CONCLUSIONS OF LA JOLLA REPORT ON CRITERIA FOR THREE CLASSIFICATIONS OF WHALE STOCKS AS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. IN PARTICULAR, USG FEELS 10 PER CENT VALUE FOR "Z" IS ACCEPTABLE APPROACH AND IS ADEQUATE DEPARTURE FROM PAST PRACTICES OF IWC. CONCEPT "Z" EXPLAINED REFTEL.

4. USG HOPES TO HAVE FULL EXCHANGE ON THESE ISSUES WITH HOST GOVERNMENT DELEGATION PRIOR TO AND DURING IWC MEETING. FYI. US COMMISSIONER WHITE MET WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY MINISTER NISHIDA TO IMPRESS UPON HIM IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO JAPANESE ACCEPTANCE OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS, AT JUNE IWC MEETING. END FYI.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: MAKE ABOVE APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT, UNLESS EMBASSY FEELS SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. PLEASE REPORT. TO FACILITATE CONSULTATIONS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE INFO AS TO NAME OF HOST GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER AND HIS ETA LONDON, WHEN AVAILABLE. PLEASE REPEAT INFO EMBASSY LONDON. KISSINGER

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